

TRANSCRIPT PREPARED BY THE CLERK OF THE LEGISLATURE  
Transcriber's Office  
FLOOR DEBATE

March 4, 2003            LR 11

SENATOR JENSEN: I don't know. I know in California there are many tribes that have come into the state and say we are recognized, we were here. As a matter of fact there was one woman, the lone survivor of a tribe who now has a casino and was living in the desert in a trailer house and now has property and...

SENATOR SCHIMEK: But are they on land that is still considered reservation land? Because I can tell you with certainty that there have been only three times since the law was passed in 1988 when a tribe has been allowed to go off reservation land and establish land in trust for purposes of gaming. And the reason it's so difficult is that your Governor has to agree to it. The Secretary of Interior has to agree to it. The local community has to agree to it. It's a huge, long process. Now in addition to that, I will tell you that there are 20 other tribes that have been successful in getting land held in trust but it is still within their reservation land. It may have not have been held in trust for purposes of gaming originally but it's still within their reservation land.

SENATOR JENSEN: Well, where does this put then the Poncas in the state of Nebraska?

SENATOR SCHIMEK: The Poncas...

SPEAKER BROMM: One minute.

SENATOR SCHIMEK: ...really don't have any land that would be useful for gaming in Nebraska. They have one little piece up in Knox County, as I understand it, that's ceremonial burial kind of ground and they would never use that ground for casinos.

SENATOR JENSEN: And so the land that they own here in Lincoln, the land that they own in Carter Lake would not be suitable for a casino?

SENATOR SCHIMEK: Well, is Carter Lake in Iowa?

SENATOR JENSEN: It is.